CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

San Bernardino Unit

Serving Inyo, Mono, & San Bernardino Counties

CONTACT: RELEASE

DATE: November 21, 2017

Burn Suspension Lifted in Inyo/Mono Counties

Inyo/Mono Counties – Officials from the CAL FIRE, San Bernardino Unit, have lifted the burn suspension in Inyo/Mono counties effective 8: oo a.m. on Monday November 20, 2017. Unit Chief Glenn Barley said, "Given the precipitation received today, CAL FIRE has determined that it is safe to lift the burn suspension in Inyo/Mono Counties."

CAL FIRE will continue to monitor weather and fuel conditions, and will rescind the suspension when burning can be conducted without compromising public safety".

Burn permits are still required in Inyo/Mono Counties and each burn permit request will be accompanied with a physical inspection of the property. There will also be special instructions placed on the permits such as; extra clearance, making sure that there is a charged water source immediately available and tools are at hand. Owens Valley Division Chief, Paul Melendrez reminds everyone, "that even with a permit and inspection, it is still the permit holders responsibility to conduct the burn safely and to maintain control of the fire." He further stated that the public-private partnership is key to the safe use of fire in wildland areas.

The special restrictions that remain in Inyo/Mono Counties regarding open fires include:

- 1. Use of campfires is restricted to within established campfire facilities located in established campgrounds open to the public.
- 2. Cooking fires with a valid permit are permissive when no alternate means of cooking is available and requires an on-site inspection prior to the issuance of a permit.
- 3. Warming fires with a valid permit are permissive and require an on-site inspection prior to the issuance of a permit when weather conditions exist to justify the request.
- 4. Burn permits issued to property owners for their parcels will have been inspected to ensure adequate clearance and prevention guidelines to reduce the risk of uncontrolled fires.
- 5. Project burn permits will continue to be reviewed as set forth by the Unit and local CAL FIRE Chief Officer in that area.

It is important for every property owner to maintain their 100-foot clearance (or to the property line) of their properties. To find out more about how to fire safe your homes and property you can contact your local fire department, CAL FIRE or go to the CAL FIRE web site at **www.fire.ca.gov** or **www.readyforwildfire.org**

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